

**RESOLUTION ON THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
ASSITANCE TO REFUGEES IN AFRICA (ICARA II)**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Nineteenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 6 to 12 June, 1983,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General and in particular its parts dealing with refugees in Africa,

Recalling previous OAU resolutions on issues pertaining to refugees in Africa, to the urgency, magnitude and complexity of the problems they are confronted with, and to the impact those problems have on the economies of the countries concerned,

Recalling also that ICARA I, in spite of its successful conclusion, did not rise up to all the expectations of the African countries,

Noting with appreciation resolution 37/197 adopted by the UN General Assembly on 18 December 1982 which requests the UN Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to convene a second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, and defines the three objectives of the Conference as follows:

- a) To review thoroughly the results of the Conference held in 1981 as well as the state of the progress of projects submitted to it;
- b) To consider the continuing need for assistance with a view to providing, as necessary, additional assistance to refugees and returnees in Africa for the implementation of programmes for their relief, rehabilitation and resettlement;
- c) To consider the impact imposed on the national economies of the African countries concerned and to provide them with required assistance to

strengthen their social and economic infrastructure to cope with the burden of dealing with large numbers of refugees and returnees;

Aware of the fact that a thorough technical preparation for ICARA II is one of the pre-conditions for its success:

1. **COMMENDS** the initiative taken by the UN General Assembly as the refugees situation in Africa requires urgent international assistance to cope with its humanitarian aspects while trying to alleviate its adverse effects on the economies of the countries effected, a majority of which are among the LDC's;
2. **APPEALS** to the International donor community to development and aid-granting agencies, to the non-governmental organizations having refugee programmes in Africa, to potential donors from friendly countries and organizations, to give serious consideration to the urgent needs of African countries of origin and asylum, to contribute generously to humanitarian, relief, rehabilitation and resettlement programmes, and to provide assistance to African countries to enable them to cope with the burden they are assuming because of large number of refugees and returnees;
3. **CALLS UPON** the UN and its specialized agencies to extend all possible assistance to African Governments, through their respective field structures, in the technical preparations for ICARA II;
4. **INVITES** the voluntary agencies involved in refugee work in Africa to closely associate themselves with the technical preparation for ICARA II, and to sustain and if possible, extend their worthy efforts in favor of the African Refugees;
5. **REQUESTS** the Secretary-General to undertake an in-depth study of the root-causes of asylum-seeking in Africa, and to submit its findings to the Twenty-first Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government;

- 6. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government at its Twentieth Session of the implementation of the present resolution.**

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